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Groundbreaking. Student housing

▶ This artist's rendering shows what the $100 million project will look like once it's completed in 2013.

Berklee breaks ground on dorms

Berklee College of Music began construction of a mixed-use tower on Massachusetts Avenue yesterday. It will include 370 beds for students, a two-story dining hall, a performance venue with seating for 400 people and new recording space. {page 04}

City gives 200 reasons why Occupy should go

Documents filed for a court hearing today detail why city wants right to shut down encampment {page 02}

Gift guide

Is that what he really wants for Christmas?

Do you know what your man needs? We do! {pages 13-15}

In the news

68,911

Number of signatures obtained in a push to get a question about legalizing marijuana for chronically ill patients on the 2012 ballot. Signature collectors need to bring the documents to Secretary of State William Galvin's office by next week for final certification. METRO

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WHAT 1962 SONG DID SEGER HUM?

Police search for gunman

BOSTON. Police are searching for the gunman who fatally shot a young man Tuesday night in Charlestown. Officers found the man, who was in his 20s, outside the housing projects on Bunker Hill Street about 5:30 p.m. The man was shot in the head, according to the Boston Herald. Police said they are also working to identify the man. He was not carrying any identification, according to the Herald. Anyone with info can call police at 617-343-4470. METRO

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Mystic Valley

Teacher on leave after porn star allegations

MALDEN. The chair of the English department at Mystic Valley Regional Charter School was put on paid leave amid allegations that he previously worked as a gay porn star.

Kevin Hogan allegedly used the name Hytch Cawke and appeared in films titled "Just Gone Gay" and "Fetish World," Fox 25 reported. METRO

Occupiers facing full-court press to keep camping

Judge to decide what will become of Deweyville ◗ City claims camp violates health and safety regs ◗ ACLU hopeful Hub case sets precedent

The Wall Street protests were cleared out.

Then the Occupy Philadelphia camp was disbanded.

And now, the fate of Occupy Boston's Tent City is on the line.

Protesters will go to court today defending their right to stay in Dewey Square using tents as an expression of the movement and free speech.

But the group is up against a 200-page court document filed by the city this week arguing the camp violates health and safety standards.

"The First Amendment protects free speech … it does not protect [the occupiers] desire to live in tents," according to a document filed in Suffolk Superior Court and backed by Boston's Fire and Health officials.

Last month, protesters won a temporary injunction that blocked the police from sweeping in unannounced and clearing out camp.

▶ The city has cited health issues as a concern at the camp.

Taking it to court

Fire, health, building and police inspectors' assessment of the camp:

- Site is a "tinderbox," worsening risk of fire.
- Site poses imminent threat of danger.
- Strong odor of urine coming from camp
- Risk of disease spread by food borne illness

By the numbers

$750K
Police overtime for Occupy Boston

90
Number of incidents BPD has responded to at the camp

POST YOUR COMMENTS: WWW.METRO.US/OCCUPY

But Mayor Thomas Menino thinks that injunction should be lifted.

"It doesn't mean that we're going to be moving them … I just want to be on a level playing field when we go into the courthouse [today]," he said. "It's the people's land and we have to protect it."

Carol Rose, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union, said she hopes the judge will continue the current order.

"I am hopeful Boston will be a beacon for how other cities can do it. We can be a model as an appropriate response to these [protests]," she said.

The ACLU and National Lawyer's Guild have provided a pro bono lawyer to represent the group.

STEVE ANNEAR
steve.annear@metro.us

T police look to ID alleged train groper

Transit police are on the lookout for a man who allegedly indecently assaulted a female passenger while on a Red Line train between Harvard and Kendall squares on Monday.

The suspect is described as a white male in his 40s, around 6 feet tall, 185 pounds, wearing a gray tweed sport coat, a blue collared shirt, and a red and gold college-type ring.

According to reports, the suspect allegedly indecently assaulted the victim by "intentionally poking her in the crotch with his finger" as the train approached Kendall Station.

He exited the train at Park Street Station, according to MBTA Transit Police reports. STEVE ANNEAR

▶ Alleged suspect

News in brief

Minor quake hits 'burbs

WILMINGTON. A minor earthquake occurred near Wilmington about 1:07 a.m. yesterday The 0.8 magnitude earthquake was located about 2.5 miles from the town, according to Boston College's Weston Observatory. There were no reports of shaking, but seismographs at the observatory detected the movement. METRO

Smile, Boston!

BOSTON. A survey released this week by Men's Health pegs the Hub as the fifth happiest city in the U.S.

The survey examined suicide and unemployment rates as well as residents using antidepressants and people who report "feeling the blues all or most of the time."

Honolulu ranked as the happiest city and St. Petersburg, Fla., ranked as the least happy. METRO

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Metro Magic toy drive

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ The toys have begun filling up our office!

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on ToysRUs.com. Once there, you can see all the toys we've already requested with more added daily. Simply select the toys you want and purchase them. That's it!

▶ Selecting only the toys on our wish list ensures that all the gifts will be shipped to our offices and picked up by Toys for Tots or sent to The Home for Little Wanderers.

▶ If you donate, e-mail us at **charity@metro.us** and we'll print a "thank you" in the paper! METRO

Berklee building means more on-campus housing

◗ Construction starts on the school's first new building ever ◗ Tower will feature recording space, dorm rooms, dining hall and performance space

In its 66-year history, the Berklee College of Music has never constructed a building from the ground up.

Yesterday, the college took a big step forward and held a groundbreaking ceremony for a brand-new, 16-story, mixed-used tower on Massachusetts Avenue.

The tower, at the corner of Belvidere Street, will include 370 beds for students, a two-story dining hall, a student performance venue with seating for 400 people and new recording space.

The $100 million building is the first of three new buildings Berklee plans to build as part of an expansion of its Fenway campus. The college's master plan was approved by the city's redevelopment agency earlier this year.

▶ Construction is expected to be finished in 2013.

Berklee President Roger Brown said he was "extremely excited" about the new building and that it was very important for the school.

He said the building would increase the school's recording space by 300 percent.

Mayor Thomas Menino spoke during the ceremony and stated that the building would help the city's goal of housing more students on campus than off campus.

The school's neighbors said they welcome the new building for the same reason.

"The project is exciting because it frees up badly needed neighborhood housing for the community," said Walter Hunt of the Fenway Civic Association.

Classes are expected to be held in the new building in the fall of 2013.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
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Record highs in T ridership

September and October represent the MBTA's highest ridership ever recorded ◆ Growth seen on multiple lines

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Is your train more crowded these days?

Despite the occasional train breakdown, Hub riders have been flocking to the T in record numbers.

MBTA interim General Manager Jon Davis announced yesterday that October's weekday ridership soared past last year's total.

Combined, September and October also marked the T's highest ridership ever recorded, he said.

According to T officials, heavy ridership growth on the Red, Orange and Blue lines last month beat out September's records.

"It's wonderful. It's great news. At first I thought it was an anomaly, but clearly the trend is here to stay," said Brian Kane, budget and policy analyst for the MBTA Advisory Board.

Kane said a mix of mobile apps, economic recovery in the Boston area and a distaste for traffic congestion may have helped spike ridership.

"If the T was world class like we all want it to be, and if you could guarantee reliability, then you would see it really peak," he said.

1.348M
Number of passenger trips per weekday in October.

Riders yesterday at South Station agreed with Kane's assessment.

"I don't want to pay for parking and the price to ride is great," said Daren Hammer, 38.

Hammer said he would not be mad about a potential fare hike as long as "it wasn't outrageous."

Catherine Heller said while the T can be unreliable, it's her livelihood for getting around.

"Even if I had a car, I'd still take the T," she said.

STEVE ANNEAR
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Commuter Rail: Who will take over?

The MBTA board began discussing the future of the Commuter Rail and its operations during its meeting Monday.

According to reports, with MBCR's contract with the T expiring in 2013, officials mulled the idea of taking the train operations in-house, or trying a new type of contract with a decades-long pact with a bidder.

The Commuter Rail is one of the largest contracts in state government, according to the Globe, shuttling roughly 70,000 workers in and out of Boston daily. METRO/BOSTON.COM

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Grand reopening. Dunkin' Donuts

▶ Despite renovations, the shop still has a retro feel.

Time to go back in time

The nation's first Dunkin' Donuts shop, located in Quincy, will celebrate its reopening today. Sixty-one years after the Southern Artery shop opened its doors for the first time, it will open them again with a remodeled look. While the shop now has updated colors and furniture, it will still feature some retro elements including horseshoe counter seating. METRO

Mayor Thomas M. Menino | City of Boston

Macy's Enchanted Trolley Tour & Tree Lightings

December 2nd:

5:30 p.m: West Roxbury
Roche Family Ctr

6:15 p.m: Readville
Wolcott Square

6:45 p.m: Mattapan
Mattapan Square

7:15 p.m: Dorchester
Codman Square

7:45 p.m: Dorchester
Adams Corner

December 3rd:

2:00 p.m: Jamaica Plain
J.P. Monument

2:45 p.m: Jamaica Plain
Hyde Square

3:15 p.m: Roxbury
Mission Hill

3:45 p.m: Roxbury
135 Dudley St. (B-2)

4:15 p.m: South End
Boston Center for the Arts

5:00 p.m: Brighton
Oak Square

December 4th:

1:00 p.m: South Boston
West Broadway

1:45 p.m: Chinatown
Harrison Ave. & Beach St.

2:30 p.m: North End
Paul Revere Mall

3:15 p.m: Charlestown
Thompson Square

4:00 p.m: East Boston
Central Square

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Embattled Cain presses ahead with presidential hopes

- Says accusation of affair is 'character assassination'
- Denies allegations but is reassessing campaign

Republican Herman Cain plowed ahead with his struggling presidential campaign yesterday, vowing he would not be pushed out of the race by allegations of an extramarital affair and calling the charges "character assassination."

At two campaign stops in Ohio, Cain said his supporters were sticking with him despite the latest controversy and accused his critics of trying to bring down his upstart White House bid.

"They want you to believe that with enough character assassination on me that I will drop out," Cain said in Dayton, drawing a chorus of "boo" and shouts of "no" from the crowd.

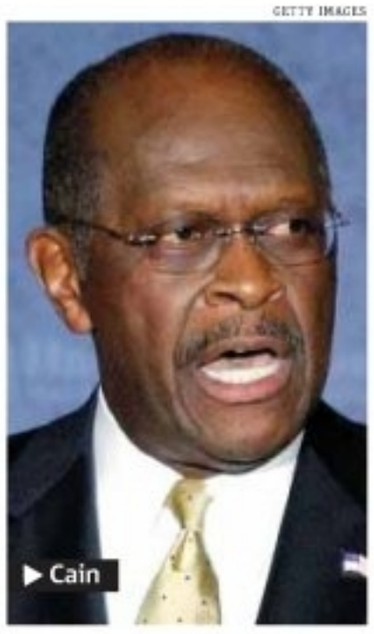
"One of the reasons they want to try and shoot me down and tear me down is because of the strength of my message," he said.

Earlier, in West Chester, Ohio, he said critics were trying to end his campaign, but added: "I don't believe that America is going to let that happen."

Cain, 65, denies he had an affair with Atlanta businesswoman Ginger White, who claims their 13-year, on-and-off relationship began in the mid-1990s. But he says he is reassessing the viability of his campaign.

"We are reassessing as we speak," Cain said, adding he would decide in the next few days whether to continue his bid to be the Republican challenger next year to President Barack Obama. REUTERS

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Cain

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Good for them

If Herman Cain departed from the presidential campaign, Newt Gingrich and Mitt Romney would benefit most, according to an analysis. Support for Romney and Gingrich would rise by 3 percentage points each, against the 1- or 2-point bumps. The shift would not reorder the standings, with Gingrich remaining in first and Romney second.

Biden: Pullout brings new phase with Iraq

BAGHDAD. Vice President Joe Biden said yesterday the U.S. troop withdrawal from Iraq by the end of the year opened a new phase in relations between the two countries, including a robust security partnership.

The remaining 13,000 U.S. troops in Iraq are scheduled to leave by the end of the year when a bilateral security pact expires, nearly nine years after the U.S. invasion that ousted dictator Saddam Hussein.

"We are embarking on a new ... and a comprehensive relationship between the United States and Iraq as sovereign partners," Biden said. REUTERS

metro MAN AND WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2011

Jennifer Lopez, Eminem and Hillary Clinton yesterday received their first nominations in the 2012 Metro Man and Woman of the Year event.

And Kris Lima of Boston became the first person to nominate Steve Jobs. "The outpouring when he passed and the impact he has had, and continues to have, on all of us, makes him the obvious choice," said Kris.

Make your nominations by e-mailing mwoty@metro.us.

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— SHANNON HOGAN, paralegal; BU certificate awarded 2011

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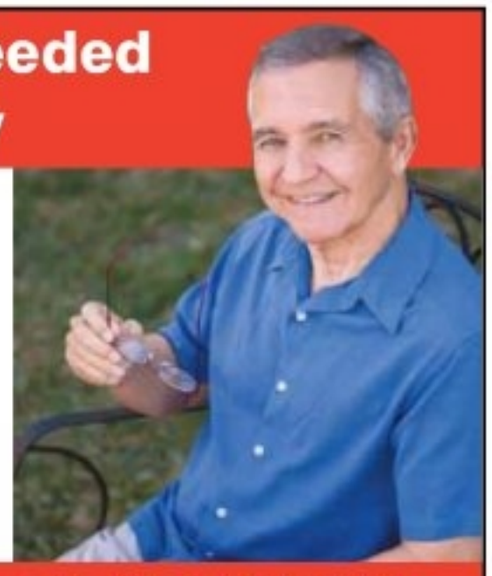

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myentertainment

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

A 'neurotic' Aniston can't win

Oh, hey: In Touch Weekly is reporting that **Jennifer Aniston**, who makes her money by being ultra thin and beautiful, is concerned about gaining weight and not exercising enough. You don't say!

Since the actress quit smoking in hopes of getting pregnant, she "complains nonstop about how fat she is," a source tells In Touch, which makes new beau **Justin Theroux** annoyed. "Justin really can't believe how vain Jennifer is. He will want to go to a restaurant and Jen will say that the food's too fattening or that she can't stay up late because she's getting up at 6 a.m. to go to a workout." They continue: "It's hard [for him] to deal with her neurotic side."

I'd be neurotic too if the entire tabloid press were on high alert for photos of me looking a little bit chunkers so they can scream that I'm pregnant. Justin, let that lady wake up at 6 a.m. to go work out! She's bringing home the bacon with those gams.

Aniston wants to stay this way

More bad life choices for Lindsay Lohan

Well, if this doesn't spell the end for **Lindsay Lohan**, I don't know what does: **Courtney Love**, a woman once so wasted she was photographed having a stranger suck her bare nipple at a Wendy's, is apparently Lindsay Lohan's new sobriety coach.

Yes, in the new issue of Details, Love says she's taken on the role "because nobody else will."

Love says she is using her past to show Lohan that she is making a mistake by using drugs. "I went up to Lindsay's room one time and there was a show on called '101 Celebrity Oops' and I am like, every other one. You know — boobs out, legs everywhere, throwing s— at Madonna, you know, whatever," **Kurt Cobain**'s widow told the magazine. "I'm like, 'Lindsay, look! Drugs are bad!'"

▶ Lohan

▶ Love

Love, whose daughter recently filed a restraining order against her, claims she's been clean since 2005.

Does anyone need to know how bad of an idea this is? Having Courtney Love as your sobriety coach makes about as much sense has having **Chris Farley** as your weight-loss guru.

www.metro.us
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DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

Talking points

Cooper's new leading lady?

Bradley Cooper reportedly spent a romantic day in Paris with French actress **Melanie Laurent**, prompting rumors that the two are dating, according to Us Weekly. Cooper, who is fluent in French, lunched on the Boulevard St. Germain with Laurent before heading to the theater for a matinee. The pair then headed back to Cooper's hotel for a private dinner.

▶ Bradley Cooper

▶ Melanie Laurent

Moore tunes out for some 'me' time

It turns out **Demi Moore** wasn't on hand for youngest daughter **Tallulah**'s recent debutante ball in Paris because she stayed back in L.A. for some "me time." Moore, who recently filed for divorce from **Ashton Kutcher**, was spotted enjoying a dinner with close friend and florist **Eric Butterbaugh** at the Sunset Tower Hotel, according to Us Weekly. Sources note, "[Moore] seemed fine, in a good mood and laughing. She was just with her friend having a nice night out." Another source adds, "It didn't look like a romantic date."

ScarJo loves the bad boys

Scarlett Johansson admits she has a thing for bad boys, so to speak. "I'm attracted to the quality of being adventurous and perhaps a bit mischievous and also questioning authority and being proactive," Johansson, who recently dated **Sean Penn**, tells Cosmopolitan. "If that makes up a quintessential bad boy, then whatever. I'm not at all attracted to meanness or bullying, but I do think conviction is attractive. I mean, really, who doesn't?" One thing she doesn't find attractive, though, is over-sharing: "I don't have a Facebook or a Twitter account," she says. "I don't know how I feel about this idea of, 'Now, I'm eating dinner, and I want everyone to know that I'm having dinner at this time.' That, to me, is a very strange phenomenon. I can't think of anything I'd rather do less than have to continuously share details of my everyday life."

2

The feed ...

▶ **Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.**

Joan Rivers is looking out for the incarcerated, Martha Stewart doesn't appreciate being corrected, Matthew Perry is unimpressed by transportation and Conan O'Brien is rethinking his online purchases.

▶ **@Joan_Rivers:** Everyone is happy that Conrad Murray was sentenced to four years in prison, except for other inmates suffering from insomnia.

▶ **@MarthaStewart:** twitter is not necessarily the place to worry about grammar,spelling and syntax- i just try to fit my thoughts into 140 characters or less..

▶ **@MatthewPerry:** I'm on a train. Whatever.

▶ **@ConanOBrien:** Not gonna say what I bought, but Amazon just reviewed my order and said, "You might also be interested in therapy."

Perry

myentertainment

Mission impossible: Exiting the airport

1: Pamela Anderson unveiled the Vegetarian Icons Postage Sheet as part of the "PETA Goes Postal" campaign at Hollywood Post Office in Hollywood, Calif., on Tuesday.

2: Tom Cruise arrived in Tokyo, Japan, yesterday to promote his upcoming film "Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol."

3: Lady Antebellum was honored at the 2011 CMT Artists of the Year celebration at the Bridgestone Arena in Nashville, Tenn., on Tuesday. Other honorees included Brad Paisley, Kenny Chesney, Jason Aldean and Taylor Swift.

4: At the New York City's eighth annual UNICEF Snowflake ball at Cipriani's on Tuesday, Sarah Jessica Parker dressed the part by showing up in a Louis Vuitton dress, looking like a petite speck of snowflake.

5: Sarah McLachlan performed at the 2011 Bryant Park Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in New York City on Tuesday.

6: Bono and Alicia Keys attended a private screening of the documentary "Keep A Child Alive With Alicia Keys" at Tribeca Grand Hotel in New York City on Tuesday.

7: Michael Buble made an appearance at J&R Music & Computer World for its 40th anniversary celebration in New York City on Tuesday.

8: Alan Cumming attended the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at The New York Palace in New York City on Tuesday.

1: MICHAEL BUCKNER/GETTY IMAGES
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3: RICE DIAMOND/GETTY IMAGES
4: ROB KIM/FILMMAGIC
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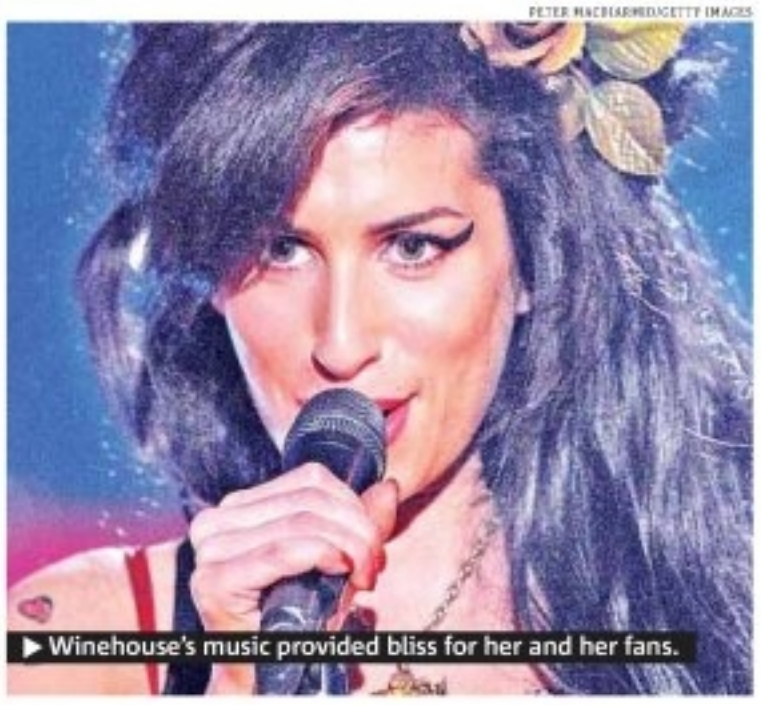
HOW WILL THE 'LIONESS' ROAR?

The first Winehouse album to be released since her death drops Monday Where does 'Hidden Treasures' fit in with other hidden treasures of posthumous albums?

PETER MACDIARMID/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Winehouse's music provided bliss for her and her fans.

Amy Winehouse's first release since she died in July comes out on Monday. As early as September, word got out that this would not be the revered "third album" that she was reportedly working on at the time of her death, but a compilation of unreleased songs from 2002 through March of this year.

Though a complete version of "Lioness: Hidden Treasures" was not available at press time, enough tracks have surfaced online to paint a relatively clear idea of what to expect. Many of the tunes are covers and reworked versions of previously released songs. They have a surprisingly consistent vibe for such a varied timeline of when they were recorded. But posthumous albums are hardly ever a full picture of an artist's intentions. One can't help but wonder how close to completion they were, according to Amy.

Two tracks surfaced earlier this week: "Between the Cheats" and "Halftime." Aside from the distorted bass that signals the intro of "Cheats," it sounds

like a straight-up oldies revival in the tradition of "Beauty School Dropout." Winehouse's voice is slurry like a drunken flirt — sure, she's touching your shirt as she's talking to you, but she's swaying from side to side. That said, she doesn't miss a note. "Halftime" is more likely to be a legacy cementer though. With its smooth Mary J mood and lyrics about how important her chosen profession was to her, this 2002 tune is almost a fitting epitaph.

"The music is a gift," she sings, "and it's stronger than all else, provides me with a bliss."

PAT HEALY
pat.healy@metro.us

Roundup

Otis Redding 'The Dock of the Bay' (1968)

Amount of time released after death: 76 days
With the title track of this album, Redding had recorded the only tune of this sort in his catalogue. He was headed in a folky new direction, and though it was one that his soul music peers weren't exactly excited about, time has rendered the song as his best known work. Recorded just days before his death, the contemplative whistle-along song is one of the greatest "what if?" moments in pop music history. The rest of the album is mostly made up of the sort of kicking soul workouts that his band wanted him to keep creating.

Janis Joplin 'Pearl' (1971)

Amount of time released after death: 99 days
This album is full of those proverbial "what if?" moments, as well as a lot of eerie lyrical moments. The album opens with Joplin singing, "You say that it's over, baby," and it is stinging to hear her sing "I'd trade all of my tomorrows for one single yesterday" in her performance of the album's biggest hit, Kris Kristofferson's "Me and Bobby McGee." Throughout the album Joplin delivers a material that far surpasses the bluesy numbers she had been doing previously.

John Lennon and Yoko Ono 'Milk and Honey' (1983)

Amount of time released

Other posthumous musical offerings

after death: Three years
Lennon was assassinated three weeks after he released "Double Fantasy," an album that broke a silence of more than five years. This album he had been working on with Yoko Ono was intended to be the follow-up. "Milk and Honey" is not an insult to the Lennon legacy, but listening to it now, it sounds very much of its era. We'll never know if Lennon would have used so many 1980s conventions if he saw it through to completion.

Bob Marley and the Wailers 'Confrontation' (1983)

Amount of time released after death: Two years
This is a solid reggae album, but "Uprising" the album that Marley released the year before he died of cancer at 36 is the more appropriate farewell, as he knew he had cancer in the late '70s. But "Confrontation," which his widow Rita put together, does a great job celebrating his life rather than dwelling on his final recorded note, which was the stark and triumphant "Redemption Song."

Michael Jackson 'Michael' (2010)

Amount of time released after death: Six months
Many close to the King of Pop contend Michael would not deem "Michael" worthy of his royal catalogue. Though it's no "Thriller," it's not a bad pop collection.

Sublime 'Sublime' (1996)

Amount of time released after death: Two months
Sublime singer Bradley Nowell died in 1996 (the same year as Tupac, who we didn't profile here because that dude released more albums after he died than when he was alive). Anyway, by the time Nowell died, his band's major label debut was already in the can. The celebratory music within hardly foreshadowed any tragedy, and was true to his intentions. However, the videos being a pastiche of existing footage, slowed down to give the impression he was mouthing the words, probably wouldn't have been anyone's first choice.

Elliott Smith 'From a Basement on the Hill' (2004)

Amount of time released after death: One year
Smith's final album is loaded with warning signs to the troubled singer-songwriter. Yes, there's a song called "A Fond Farewell" but another song he had prepared, "Suicide Machine," was wisely left off.

5 reasons to go to the movies

1 'The Muppets' The Muppets reunite to save the old studio that was home to the show that brought them fame. New pal, super fan and fellow Muppet Walter helps the gang come together to fight the power.

2 'Arthur Christmas' Just how does Santa get all those presents delivered in one night? With a SWAT team of elves, of course! "Arthur Christmas" answers all the burning questions you've ever had about Claus.

▶ "The Muppets"

3 'Hugo' Martin Scorsese's venture into family film makes sense when you realize it's primarily about real-life filmmaker Georges Melies and his life spent creating some of the first films ever made.

4 'The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1' All eyes are on Mr. and Mrs. Cullen this weekend, as mortal Bella and vampire Edward tie the knot and, you know, "break a headboard," which is a new euphemism for Twihards everywhere.

5 'Happy Feet 2' The dancing penguins are back with an impressive list of celebrities giving voice to those feisty little folks who are trying to stave off a threat to their home.

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Letters

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RE: Veterans and the vote

Mr. Palamaro's point is well taken, but fails to appreciate the reality of our current politics. Republicans and Democrats aren't "bickering" over simple policy. Rather, they can't even agree on the empirical reality everyday Americans are facing. And the GOP is eager to deny the existence of both massive unemployment and even greater income inequality, all while pursuing policies that will make it worse. OWS is the first (and hopefully not the last) manifestation of the collective voice Mr. Palamaro is calling for.

JOSEPH CONNELL, VIA EMAIL

RE: Thank you Occupy Wall St.

Your opinion — to thank the malcontent parasites protesting their inability to carve out a life for themselves — got my attention. I notice you don't thank our forefathers for their sacrifices in creating this country. You don't thank the men and women in the military who risk their lives so that you may have the freedom to express your beliefs, nor the police or firefighters who ensure we can continue to live in a civilized community. You should have thanked the people who gave you a job where the most dangerous thing you have to worry about is a paper cut. I'm thanking my Cockatoo for his perfect aim. As soon as I relined his cage, he left a large deposit on your "opinion."

TIM FAULKNER, VIA EMAIL

Average Joe of the Year

I do have a lot of recommendees for the "Man and Woman of the year 2011," but they are already famous and these names need not be recognized further. Instead, I recommend the category "Ordinary man/woman on the street." I, for instance, propose myself as the "Man of the Year 2011." This is my most opportune time to thank you in public for the unselfish contribution that Metro has freely given to men and women on the street, especially in these hard economic times.

DAN M. VENZON, VIA EMAIL

Black Friday or Vendredi Noir?

The holiday shopping numbers are wrong. Economic analysts will not tell us that the results include millions of foreign tourists who come here to do what everybody else is doing: chase after bargains.

WILLY MACHAN, VIA EMAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**
Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** You're starting a new cycle, which will continue for some time and could be profitable if you play your cards right. It's a spotty trend, so be able to recognize your good days.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** This is likely to be a favorable day for you where new adventures or enterprises are concerned. It'll be especially so for anything that you'll have a hand in bringing about.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Something that was financially fortunate for you previously could be so again. Don't change anything that worked well the first time.

♓ Pisces Feb. **20-March 20.** A couple of friends could play more prominent roles in your affairs than they have done in the past. Each party could be lucky for the other.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** One of your greatest assets is your ability to derive benefits or advantages from shifting circumstances. Be as supple as a reed in the wind.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** If at all possible, devote some time to an exciting, fresh interest that has captured your fancy. This new pastime could have greater ramifications for your life than you think.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Couple your will to win with your imagination, and visualize the type of results you hope to achieve — along with some changes you would like to make. They're doable.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Your ability to absorb and catalog all types of new information is better than usual at this time. Strive to utilize this gift to your best advantage.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Chances are you'll be luckier than usual, but not necessarily in ways of your choosing. Even though benefits will be influenced by what you can't control, you'll like what occurs.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Team up with others, because fortuitous developments can be generated through partnerships, especially those springing from a social involvement.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** An adverse situation that you've been working at changing for the better is likely to take that turn at last. Instead of producing negatives, it could bring you something nice.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** A friend of yours is likely to be the purveyor of some good news, but neither you nor your pal will be aware of this until you talk. It could be a surprise to both of you when you do. BERNICE BEDE OSOL

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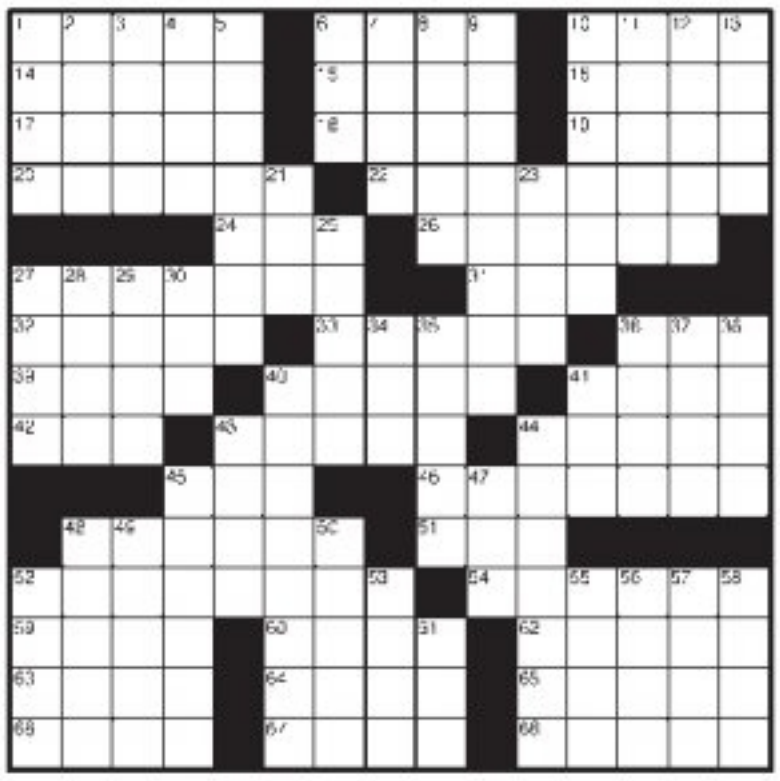
20 Grants funds
22 Practiced medicine
24 Here, in Le Havre
26 Force
27 Vast
31 — Dawn Chong
32 Go — (cooperate)
33 Caravan halts
36 Excavate
39 Yothers or Brown
40 High mountains
41 Nostalgic time
42 Brillo rival
43 Ruminated
44 Earthling
45 Okra morsel
46 Shellfish
48 Very hot
51 Party fabric
52 Brought up
54 Big name in soul
59 Sacred bird of Egypt
60 Folksinger Burl —
62 Land measures
63 Thicken, as cream
64 Genial
65 Hatchling
66 Lotto kin
67 Candle's light
68 Weirdos

Down
1 Marathoner's concern
2 John, in Russia
3 Computer whiz
4 Thus
5 Packing away
6 Famous Khan
7 "— Ha'i"
8 Revise
9 Smooth and rough
10 Evening gala
11 Hair curlers
12 Gala events
13 Insect eater
21 Chem. or biol.
23 Distinct periods
25 Screen symbols
27 Equine fodder
28 Ad award
29 Billions of years
30 Collected sayings
34 Lemon cooler
35 Four-door model
36 Major- — (headwaiter)
37 Oil exporter
38 Trait determinant
40 Checking for fraud
41 Mongkut portrayer
43 New day, briefly
44 Cafe amenity
45 On the double
47 Maude portrayer
48 Common furnishing
49 Winter constellation
50 Prepare eggs
52 — of the litter
53 Retro art style
55 Yodeler's answer
56 Small combo
57 Drat!
58 Grills, maybe
61 Apply a patch



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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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		6	4					
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SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to Wednesday's crossword

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O	G	R	E	■	F	E	A	R	■	L	O	T	T	O
L	E	A	P	■	I	N	S	T	■	A	M	O	R	E
D	E	L	U	G	E	D	■	S	C	R	A	P	E	D
■	■	■	L	U	L	L	S	■	O	I	L	■	■	■
A	B	A	S	E	D	■	N	A	R	C	I	S	S	I
M	A	N	E	S	■	B	A	M	A	■	S	H	E	D
A	Y	N	■	S	T	A	R	T	L	E	■	A	I	L
H	O	U	R	■	R	B	I	S	■	L	O	R	N	E
S	U	M	E	R	I	A	N	■	F	L	U	K	E	S
■	■	■	L	O	C	■	G	S	U	I	T	■	■	■
K	A	R	A	O	K	E	■	E	M	E	R	A	L	D
E	R	U	P	T	■	D	R	A	B	■	A	N	Y	A
R	I	N	S	E	■	G	I	L	L	■	N	O	R	M
R	A	T	E	D	■	E	A	S	E	■	K	N	E	E

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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gift guide

Gifts for him

Man up and buy him one of these

He might not like your taste in movies, but these gifts are sure to earn rave reviews this year

1. It gets cold out there when he's playing Paul Bunyan in the woods. **L.L.Bean Two-layer Union Suit, $55,** www.llbean.com

2. Bald? Fashion fade? Keep his head protected with **Jack Spade**'s 100-percent wool, hand-knit **Alpine Hat. $145,** www.jackspade.com

3. You can steal these. **Richer Poorer Socks, $12 each or $30 for three pairs,** www.richer-poorer.com

4. Every sharp man needs a trench in his wardrobe. **Uniqlo +JBlock Tech Half Coat, $200,** www.uniqlo.com

5. Here's the start to the perfect cozy outfit. **Men's Striped Crew Neck Pullover, $20; Men's Shawl-collar Cardigan, $70,** www.oldnavy.com

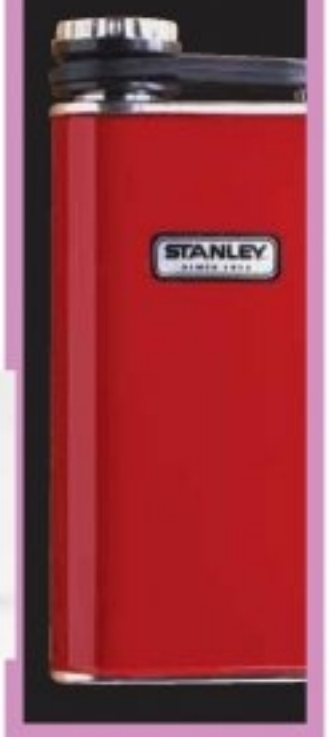
6. Add some wrist candy. **Brera Orologi for Carlos Campos, $695,** www.carloscampos.com

7. You didn't splurge on boots, but these laces will keep him looking dapper. **hook + ALBERT laces, $14,** www.hookandalbert.com

Read more on page 14

For his pocket

The handsome Stanley flask now comes in red. We'll drink to that. $24, www.restorationhardware.com



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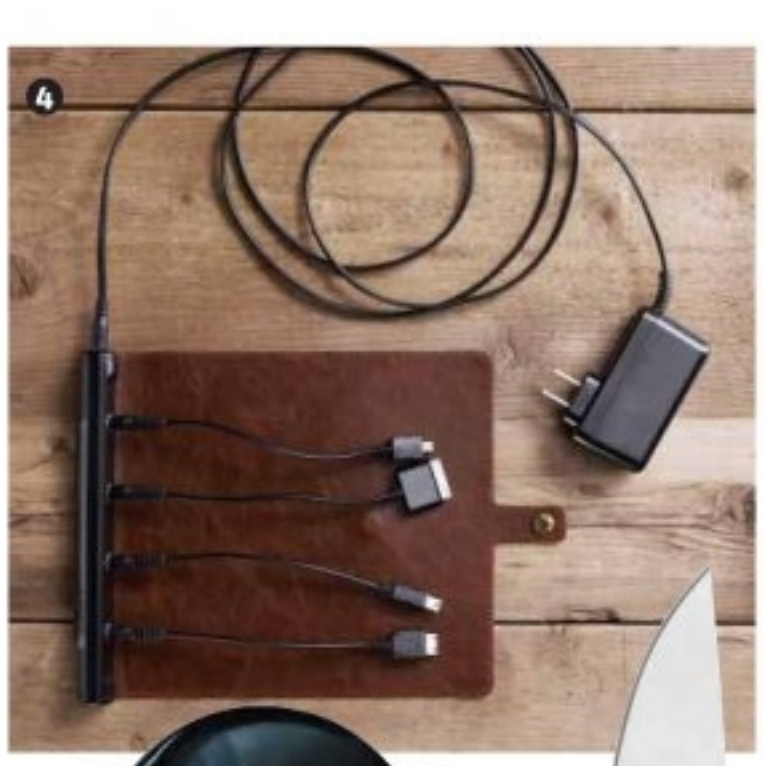

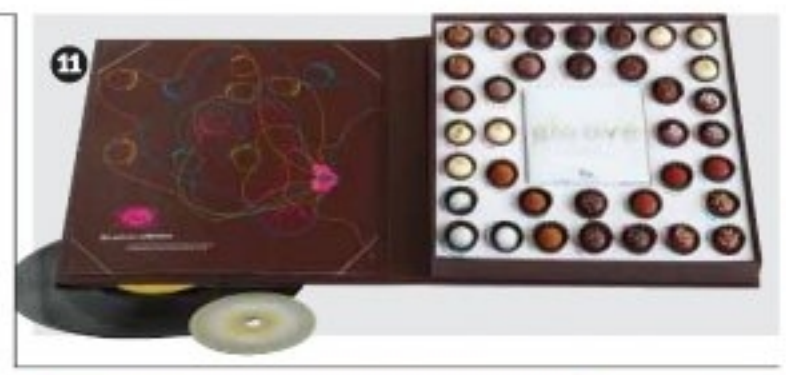

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Gifts for him (continued)

1. Everything tastes better with bubbles. **iSi Twist 'N Sparkle Soda Maker, $50, www.twistnsparkle.com**

2. Cleanse his personal space of dust, germs and the smell of Doritos with Sharp's new air purifier. **Sharp IG-A10U, $299, www.sharpusa.com**

3. This mobile scanner (aka his new office secretary) can digitally scan and file receipts, business cards and other documents. The software organizes key information. **The Neat Company NeatReceipts, $150,** www.neat.com

4. He has no excuse not to get in touch. This handy charger refuels up to four devices simultaneously. **Roll-up travel charger, $50,** www.restoration hardware.com

5. This sleek water jug removes impurities from his drinking water and even holds its own sitting alongside a fine bottle of whiskey. **Bobble Jug, $30, www.waterbobble.com**

6. A sleek and ergonomic chef's knife for all the meals he'll be preparing for you. **Zwilling J.A. Henckels 8-inch chef's knife, $120, www.williams-sonoma.com**

7. An energy-efficient house makes dad proud. The Modlet helps reduce the electricity consumed by appliances and saves 10-20 percent on electric bills. **ThinkEco Modlet, $50, www.thinkeco.com**

8. A hip and warm sleeping bag for when he hightails it to the mountains. **L.L. Bean Flannel-lined Camp Sleeping Bag, $70,** www.llbean.com

9. Playground envy is sure to ensue. **Quicksilver Bolero Cruiser skateboard, $135, www.quiksilver.com**

10. Golf junkies put Bridgestone among the best in quality equipment. **The J40 Cavity Back forged irons** will set him apart from the crowd, with scores to match. **$700-$800, www.bridgestonegolf.com**

11. For your bon vivant: This collection includes classic songs from 1920s blues to modern hip-hop, along with truffles made with the popular ingredient from each era. **Vosges Haut Chocolate Groove Truffle collection, $125, www.vosgeschocolate.com**

He can fool the world behind these shades. No one will ever suspect what a big dork he is. Persol P030085, $360, www.sunglasshut.com

12. You can get him to finally use a coaster. **Ruff House Art "Big Lebowski" coasters, $12, www.ruffhouseart .storenvy.com**

13. Bend and fold this wooden toy robot, made from sustainably harvested Cheery wood, to just about any pose — he's impossible to break. **Areaware Cubebot, $25,** http://store.module-r.com

14. Analogue forever! Lomography's 35mm movie camera lets him shoot old-school videos. **The LomoKino Super 35mm, $79,** www.shop.lomography.com

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Another loaded Cannon

Creative force behind some of Boston's best bars brings Hawthorne to great heights Atmosphere is great, but drinks are really where it's at

THURSTY

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ERIN BALDASSARI/METRO

▶ A drink to new beginnings!

If you're unfamiliar with the name Jackson Cannon, allow me to welcome you to the first article about the Boston bar scene you've ever read.

The long-time creative force behind the bar at Eastern Standard and Island Creek Oyster Bar — both widely recognized as a couple of the best cocktail bars in the city and beyond — Cannon has finally struck out on his own. He's partnered with Garrett Harker, owner of the aforementioned two, on his own uniquely realized vision. Unlike most other bars in the city, The Hawthorne — also located, conveniently, in the Commonwealth Hotel — aims to put the focus directly on the experience of the cocktail.

No surprise, given Cannon's boozy pedigree, that he's enlisted top-shelf bartending talent to execute the menu of neo-classics, long lost treasures and creative originals. But at this bar and lounge, form rivals function. The former Foundation Lounge space has been transformed into a residential-style getaway, with intimate lounge seating, shelves of knickknacks and a separate living room-style setup with inviting, backless couches all in muted grays, whites and blacks. The overall effect is like the set of a Wes Anderson film apartment with the contrast turned way up.

Tuning up the comfort level was important for his concept, Cannon explains.

"The places that I go in this country to get the best cocktails, they don't deliver physical comfort as a priority in any way," he says. "That was something that I wanted to have some focus on — but I also thought that if I wasn't going to have the requisite televisions, etc., I should have an emotionally and/or intellectually stimulating environment. ... Early on, I was thinking about drawing inspiration from the idea of entertaining in an urban apartment, curating cocktail parties."

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And to drink ...

Just as important as the comfort, says Cannon, was having a very functional bar to execute drinks on the highest level, which they do. The Phil Collins, a play on a Tom Collins made with cucumber-infused vodka, yellow chartreuse, cranberry bitters, lime juice and soda water — which he calls "refreshing, complex, but welcoming to the uninitiated in that it does have the v-word" — is on the more approachable side. Others, like the Dutch Oven, will appeal more to the mixology-focused.

Listings highlights

DANCE
Radio City Christmas Spectacular
Friday through Dec. 28
Citi Wang Theatre
270 Tremont St., Boston
$25-$130, 866-348-9738
www.citicenter.org
This annual show, with beloved (and belegged) centerpiece the Rockettes, is so jam-packed with glitz, glitter and classic song-and-dance that you and your family will be totally zonked on Christmas cheer by the time you're out.

THEATER
'She Loves Me'
Through Sunday
Greene Theatre, Tufte PPC
10 Boylston Pl., Boston
$10-$12, 617-824-8000
www.emerson.edu
Emerson students perform this 1963 musical adaptation of the play "Parfumarie" by Miklos Laszlo, which takes place at a perfume shop in 1930s Budapest. Georg and Amalia, two bickering co-workers, discover that their secret romantic penpals are each other. Awk-ward! But sometimes love starts off as dislike. Why? Who the heck knows? Love is weird!

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Tom Hil
CGA STAFF WRITER

Every three minutes another person falls behind on credit card debt. It's no wonder, since every major credit card company has nearly doubled the minimum monthly payment on consumers' bills. Federal Regulators forced the change because of their concern about the growing mountain of consumer debt, which stands at $2.17 trillion. Many consumers can only pay the minimum payment, which can take up to 30 years to pay off. Now, relief is in sight for millions of Americans.

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OUTDOORS

Boston Common Tree Lighting
Thursday, 6 p.m.
Boston Common
139 Tremont St., Boston
Free, 617-635-4505
www.cityofboston.gov
This annual festival includes performances by the Rockettes, Rockapella (yes, the band from "Carmen Sandiego"), the Boston Ballet, American Idol's Siobahn Mangus, saxophonist Grace Kelly, the Boston Children's Chrous and Joey McIntryre from New Kids on the Block. Bonus: If you get to the Frog Pond an hour early, you can catch a show by the Skating Club of Boston.

MUSIC

Holiday Pops
Wednesday through Dec. 24
Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
$28-$127, 617-266-1200
www.bso.org
Ignore it though you might, Bostonian, but you know it isn't really Christmas until that final trumpeted horse whinny in Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride" sounds from the Boston Pops' stage. The ever-youthful-looking Keith Lockhart conducts the Pops for this annual holiday concert, which features everyone's favorites, as always — that's why they call 'em the Pops.

MOVIES

'The Creature from the Black Lagoon'
Friday and Saturday
11:55 p.m.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline
$9, 617-734-2500
www.coolidge.org
Here's the original 3-D version of this 1954 monster classic, in which a scientific team battles the titular Amazonian fish-man as they attempt to study it. Fun fact: The actor who played the Creature had no oxygen tank, and had to hold his breath for up to four minutes at a time for his numerous underwater shots. Try that, Sean Penn!

MATTHEW DINARO

Winter warmers

New restaurants provide comfort foods and cold-weather fun. It will eventually get cold, you know.

Among Boston's many new eateries, three downtown restaurants that debuted this summer are warming up with comfort foods — perfect for the sharp snap from clement fall weather to crisp winter air. **Waterline**, which is tucked inside the **Marriott Long Wharf**, and **The Brahmin** and **Salty Pig** in the Back Bay share a simple, casual menu ethic of tasty, familiar dishes served in a warm ambiance.

Cozy up by the window overlooking winter's quiet harbor or in one of Waterline's booths where you can catch a game on your personal TV. Either works while eating crab cakes.

With its heavy, old Chesterfield-style couches, exposed brick and low ceilings, Brahmin feels like a relaxing gentlemen's club. Eat crispy-skinned, tender salmon with sauteed pea tendrils and sunchoke puree.

The Salty Pig is more than the sum of its parts. Try short ribs perfectly cooked with a rosy center, served with peppery grits with a lightly poached egg in the center and arugula salad laced with cracked peppercorns and a sherry vinaigrette that's flecked with diced, al dente parsnip, squash, beets and tangy goat cheese.

LINDA LABAN

Go:

- **The Brahmin:** Entrees — $10-$24. 33 Stanhope St., Boston. 617-723-3131. www.thebrahmin.com
- **Salty Pig:** Entrees — $10-$20. 130 Dartmouth St., Boston. 617-536.6200. www.thesaltypig.com

- **Waterline:** Entrees — $11-$28. State St., Boston. 617-227-3838. www.waterlineboston.com

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1/27 WTF WITH MARC MARON - 1/28 AMAZING JOHNATHAN - 2/9 GEORGE CLINTON
2/12 HOWIE MANDEL - 2/24 PAULA POUNDSTONE - 3/2 SHERYL UNDERWOOD
3/23 KATHY GRIFFIN - 3/31 RALPHIE MAY - 4/13 PAULY SHORE - 4/20 KATHLEEN MADIGAN
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hot tickets

A NEW SHADE OF CITY AND COLOUR

Dallas Green talks about going to 'Little Hell' and back How he digs into his life to write personal lyrics

The cover art for City and Colour's latest album, "Little Hell," may be a colorful illustration of tulips in a Dutch field — but there are much darker themes in the words within.

The indie folk instrumentation is decorated with Dallas Green's lyrics, which largely touch upon the personal aspects of his life. Although his past two albums have also held intimate details of his problems or parts of his relationship, "Little Hell" has tracks that deal with previously untouched material such as insomnia and depression, and songs such as "O' Sister" and "The Grand Optimist" that deal with family issues.

"All of my records are pretty much the same as far as the honesty and lyrics," Green says, "so I think that because this has a few songs on it that deal directly with my family members, people assume it's more personal than the last."

It's hard for listeners not to assume that, with lyrics like "Does it have something to do with the pills they gave to you?" in "O' Sister," which delves into Green's thoughts on his sibling's depression.

For Green, who was formerly the singer for Alexisonfire, his third album as City and Colour marks a chance to let loose and create music that felt right and reflected his own life.

TO RECEIVE NEWS ON UPCOMING SHOWS, **TEXT "HOT TICKETS"** TO **89800**

TIM MOSENFELDER/GETTY IMAGES

▶ A somber look on Green's face reflects lyrics of "Little Hell."

"I just wanted to make it all about whatever I wanted it to be," he says. "There's a bunch of songs on the record that have a full band, and there's even some louder songs on the record. I didn't want to suppress all those ideas I had just because people have a certain idea of what City and Colour should sound like."

SAMANTHA SWEENEY
letters@metro.us

A little heaven with 'Little Hell'

Green has found that getting through instances that are part of his own "Little Hell" is easier because he is a musician. Even on the days he wakes up sick or becomes fed up with life on the road, he says performing for his fans is what makes it all worthwhile.

"Sometimes you just don't want to go to work, and today was one of those days where I'm like, 'I don't want to play tonight.' But I know the best part about that is I'll be able to go onstage and it'll all go away. That's the heaven part for me," he says. "The traveling and the sitting in the rainy parking lot with nothing around us ... that's not what I like about being a musician. The getting up and singing the songs, that's my favorite part."

If you go

City and Colour
Friday, 7 p.m.
House of Blues
15 Lansdowne St., Boston
$23-$35, 800-745-3000
www.livenation.com

Tickets

On sale soon

▶ **The Roots**
Dec. 26
House of Blues
(On sale Saturday)

▶ **Sailor Jerry Presents: Flogging Molly**
Green 17 Tour 2012
Black Joe Lewis & The Honeybears, The Devil Makes Three
Feb. 21
House of Blues
(On sale Friday)

▶ **Punch Brothers**
Feb. 23-24
Somerville Theatre
(On sale Friday)

▶ **Pat Green**
March 1
House of Blues
(On sale Friday)

▶ **Dr. Dog**
March 22
House of Blues
(On sale Friday)

▶ **Martin Sexton**
March 24
House of Blues
(On sale Saturday)

▶ **Neil Diamond**
June 23
TD Garden
(On sale Monday)

Anamanaguchi get the high score

As technology has evolved, the sound of video games has moved beyond the arcade bleeps and bloops of the 1980s to become a viable way for bands to attract new audiences. But Peter Berkman is turning that idea on its head. He and his band, Anamanaguchi, use those bleeps and bloops to make new music.

As part of the movement known as chiptune, they tear apart the consoles of Nintendo gaming systems and bring the sounds that you remember from days in your friends' basements to the clubs.

What makes Anamanaguchi unique among the other acts within the chiptune genre is that with a lineup that also includes guitar, drums and bass, they inject their songs with a dose of rock.

"The music reminded me of 'Sonic the Hedgehog,' but still made me want to party," says Berkman.

If you go

Anamanaguchi
Tonight, 8
Middle East Downstairs
472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
$13-$15, 617-864-EAST
www.mideastclub.com

Berkman spent his formative years playing video games that featured more technologically advanced audio than the music he currently plays, but there was something about his early childhood that he connected with in the Nintendo sounds.

"It was something fantastic or magic that I couldn't understand," he says of watching his older brother play Nintendo.

Berkman also says that future Anamanaguchi releases may move onto other gaming systems: "The only reason I'm limiting myself to Nintendo is because it's the platform I'm most familiar with compositionally. But actually, I'm learning new programs to learn new sound sets."

▶ Listen to more with Anamanaguchi on the Metro Monthly Music Podcast, available on www.metro.us/mixtape.

ETHAN SAKS

As he continues speaking about his band, he ramps up like a kid speaking about his favorite video game.

"I'm really excited about possibilities," he says. "Our next album is going to be a wide variety, and it's going to rule!"

PAT HEALY

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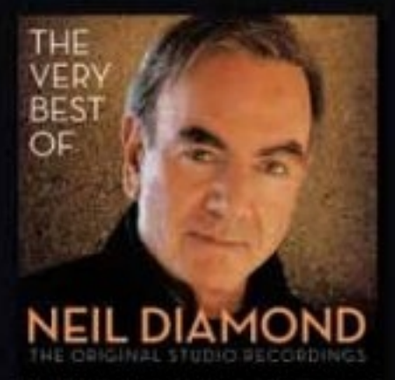

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TAG
theater & arts guide

THEATER

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MerrimackRep.org

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877-879-2300 or
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www.revels.org

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americanrepertorytheater.org
617.547.8300

MUSIC

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December 2 at 8 PM Blackman Theatre Northeastern University

Playing the traditional Second Line parades, Hot 8 Brass Band has epitomized New Orleans street music for over a decade. Recent appearances include The Great Day in Harlem at the Apollo with Dr. John and multiple episodes of the HBO series, Tremé. Don't miss this NOLA favorite and their contagious brass infused hip-hop, funk, and jazz.

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dating

Reader love notes

SEND US YOUR LOVE NOTES

What better way to show your affection for a loved one than by letting them know through Metro? E-mail us at **lovenotes@metro.us** with your special message and we'll print it in next Thursday's dating section. Please keep your note to 20 characters or fewer. Share the love!

- *Baby, when I think about you, I think about love. Thank you for everything! Xoxo, Cindy*
- ***Thanks for 6 great years I love Maria Lamarre***
- *I luv u MJB - Sean*
- ***Bigg Redd, You have my heart and soul! Hammer***
- *My heart Martin - Joe*
- ***Dear Tide, I love you more than anything & I appreciate you. Love, Downey***
- *Me without you is like Pepsi without cans. Pedophiles without vans. Jerseyshore without tans. - Athena Ellis*
- ***Minas, your the 1.***
- *LTS Luv lovin U! JRB*
- ***I love you Nyeem! - Layia***
- *I love you EZ!!*

Shrink wrap

Dr. JANE GREER
HEALTH.METRO.US

*— Relationship expert **Dr. Jane Greer** is the creator of **"Shrink Wrap"** – national commentary on what we can learn from celebrity relationships – and host of **"Let's Talk Sex"** at **Healthylife.net.** Her book, **"What About Me? Stop Selfishness From Ruining Your Relationship,"** is available nationwide.*

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

Who is responsible for birth control?

Sex happens, that's a fact. Sometimes it's planned, sometimes it's spontaneous, but it should always be something that takes thought and care. There are more forms than ever of birth control out there, so there is really no excuse to let it slide. Being mindful about contraception is a way to protect not only yourself but also your relationship. But who should pay attention, and who should make sure the protection is used?

Some say it is the man's job, others say it's the woman's. I say every person who is going to have sex is responsible for making sure they are putting protection in place. In the ideal world, this would be a joint discussion. But realistically, we have to accept that people get caught up in the moment. If you are sexually active, you owe it to yourself to make sure you are not leaving it up to the other person.

Keep in mind, too, that there are times when you and your sexual partner aren't coming from the same place and may have different intentions. Avoiding pregnancy isn't always everyone's top priority. Don't blindly trust that you and your partner are on the same page. Take matters into your own hands.

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Sox gearing up for the Valentine experience

Besides two World Series titles, the signature moment of Terry Francona's Red Sox managerial career is the 2004 ALCS comeback from 0-3 down against the Yankees.

No other team in baseball history has reached a Game 7 from such a hole. Only two teams have ever made it to Game 6.

Care to guess who managed the most recent example?

Much has been made of the tumultuous way Bobby Valentine's tenure with the Mets ended in 2002, with that team's clubhouse indiscretions making beer and fried chicken look like chopped liver.

But Valentine inherited an equally dysfunctional team in 1996 and quickly became an NL East contender, reaching the NLCS in 1999 and the World Series in 2000.

▶ Valentine will be introduced to Red Sox Nation today.

GETTY IMAGES

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It was the 1999 Mets, which took the Braves to six games in the NLCS after trailing 0-3, that best showed the Valentine experience. That season, Valentine fought publicly with his GM (careful, Ben Cherington) and outfielder Bobby Bonilla, while guiding the Mets to their first postseason in 11 years.

The complexity of Bobby V's Mets was never more apparent than over the final two games of the 1999 NLCS.

In Game 5, the Mets became only the second 0-3 team to force a sixth game, winning on Robin Ventura's "Grand Slam Single" in the 15th inning. But that came only after teammates Rickey Henderson and Turk Wendell ripped each other during pregame.

The Mets then lost Game 6 in Atlanta on a bases-loaded walk in extra innings, while Henderson and teammates were playing cards in the clubhouse.

Already, some Red Sox players are reportedly expressing displeasure with Valentine's hiring. Time to party like it's 1999.

JEFF GOLDBERG

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Globe Santa
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SCHEDULING FROM HELL

Fantasy sports

ADAM LEVITAN
ALEVITAN@METRO.US

Don't be Karl Malone or Marv Levy. We all know that second place is the first loser, especially in fantasy leagues.

If you're drooling over your dominant regular-season record and not prepping for the playoffs, you're making a big mistake. Now is the time to add defenses, protect yourself with handcuffs and examine matchups.

Here are teams with the worst schedules for fantasy production in Weeks 15 and 16.

Sorry, St. Louis

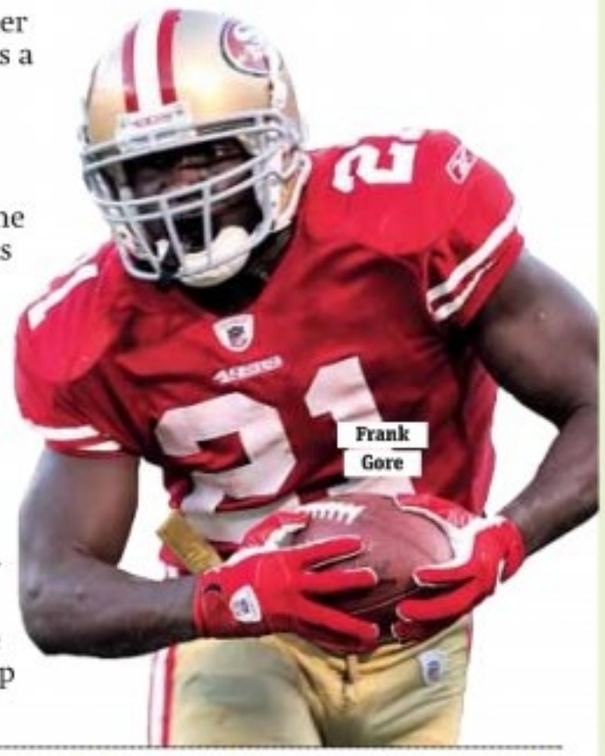
The Rams host the Bengals in Week 15 and then travel to Pittsburgh in Week 16. Yikes. Owners riding **Steven Jackson** need to explore other options and **Brandon Lloyd** deserves a downgrade as well.

Frankly, trouble

Frank Gore's role in the passing game has been reduced to nil. His burst is also gone. And in the fantasy playoffs, he'll face the dominant run defenses of the Steelers and Seahawks. Also, **Vernon Davis** will be asked to block more than catch in these spots.

Lynch mob

Marshawn Lynch's surprising run of exceptional play is about to end. He has no chance in Chicago come Week 15 and he'll get swallowed up by the Niners in Week 16.



NFL news

Yates' poem

▶ **T.J. Yates** is now the Texans' starting QB. Although that sounds bad, Yates isn't nearly as inept as Tyler Palko. Yates started 44 games for UNC, has ideal size and was a favorite of draftniks. Andre Johnson remains a must-start.

Top NFL pickups

Donald Brown

▶ **RB, Colts**
Right now, Brown is simply a better player than Joseph Addai. He'll lead Indy in carries going forward.

Riley Cooper

▶ **WR, Eagles**
Jeremy Maclin remains sidelined. Vince Young has targeted Cooper 16 times in the last two games.

Maurice Morris

▶ **RB, Lions**
With Kevin Smith (ankle) in doubt, Morris will get plenty of checkdowns once again this week.

Plus schedules

The worst matchups in the fantasy playoffs are to the left. Here are the best matchups:

1 **Texans** — The NFL's best running game faces the Panthers and Colts. Ben Tate will be a sneaky play in these potential blowouts.

2 **Bengals** — Even the plodding Cedric Benson will be able to exploit the Rams' historically bad run defense and then he gets the Cardinals.

3 **Cowboys** — Not only do the Bucs and Eagles have poor defenses, but Dallas gets plus weather in both spots.

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